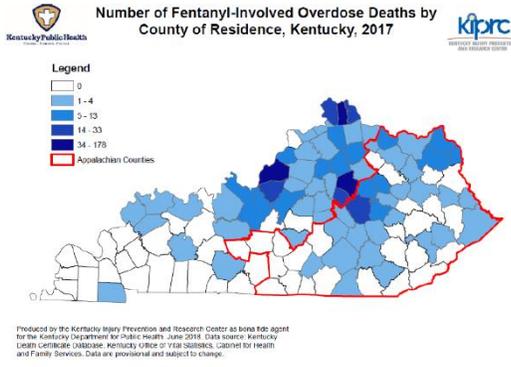




Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for July 26, 2018

Kentucky drug overdose deaths hit record high in 2017

(Herald-Leader) The number of deaths from drug overdoses in Kentucky jumped 11.5 percent in 2017 to 1,565, setting a new record, according to a report released Wednesday by the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy. Deaths attributed to heroin alone declined slightly, but the potent painkiller fentanyl claimed more lives than ever.



Jefferson and Fayette counties had the most overdose deaths, with 352 and 123, respectively. The counties with the highest overdose death rate based on population were Kenton, Campbell, Boyd, Mason and Jessamine.

Full Herald-Leader story:
<https://www.kentucky.com/news/state/article215507955.html>

Link to ODCP Report: [https://odcp.ky.gov/Reports/2017%20Kentucky%20Overdose%20Fatality%20Report%20\(final\).pdf](https://odcp.ky.gov/Reports/2017%20Kentucky%20Overdose%20Fatality%20Report%20(final).pdf)

Emergency Planning and Response for Dialysis Centers and Opioid Treatment Programs

This [21-minute video](#) educates dialysis and opioid treatment program facilities on responding to events that can impact operations, and on emergency preparedness before, response to, and after a critical event. It is presented by three different subject matter experts from emergency management, as well as the dialysis and opioid treatment communities, and includes topics such as recognition of an event that would compromise the provision of critical services, patient and staff communications, and service recovery. ([Link](#))

Planning considerations for complex coordinated terrorist attacks

(US Fire Admin) The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has released the guide "Planning Considerations: Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks" to aid community partners in planning and preparing for complex coordinated terrorist attack scenarios.

The guide highlights the unique characteristics of complex coordinated terrorist attacks, identifies potential challenges, and discusses a six-step planning process. It also provides information on identifying the capabilities necessary to respond to attacks using the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment.

To download a copy of "Planning Considerations: Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks," visit <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/167777>

OTHER FEMA Planning guides: <https://www.fema.gov/plan>

First Responder Toolbox:

Animal Cruelty - A Possible Warning Behavior for Terrorism or Premeditated Violence

This [fact sheet](#) developed as part of the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) First Responder Toolbox evaluates animal cruelty as a possible warning behavior for terrorism and other premeditated violence against humans. ([Link](#))

Fayette Mall food court virus - Count now is 350 sickened

Read more here: <https://www.kentucky.com/news/local/counties/fayette-county/article215568355.html>

More salmonella-related food recalls ahead, FDA warns

Suspect whey ingredient

(CBS) Consumers can expect additional recalls of products possibly contaminated with salmonella in coming days. Federal officials believe a common whey ingredient supplied by Associated Milk

Producers Inc. (AMPI) may have been contaminated with salmonella. The ingredient was used in recently recalled foods including certain Mondelez's [Ritz products](#), some [Pepperidge Farm's Goldfish](#) and [Flowers Foods' Swiss Rolls](#), according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/more-salmonella-related-food-recalls-ahead-fda-warns-citing-suspect-whey-ingredient/>

Pediatricians say kids at risk from untested chemicals in food

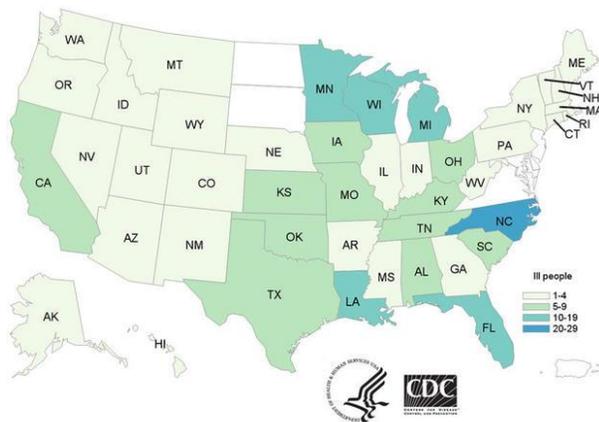
The nation's largest pediatricians' society is calling for new efforts to examine the safety of thousands of food additives and food packaging materials. The American Academy of Pediatrics says many of the more than 10,000 FDA-approved chemicals used in food and its packaging have never been thoroughly tested. There are concerns they may affect children's immunity, growth and behavior.

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/pediatricians-say-children-at-risk-from-untested-chemicals-in-food/>

Backyard flocks sicken people in 44 states

(CBS) Live poultry in backyard flocks are linked to several multistate outbreaks of salmonella infections that have now sickened 212 people in 44 states, federal health officials warned

Monday. The most recent illnesses began on June 21, with 88 of the cases reported in the last month, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC, said in [an advisory](#).



Chicks and ducklings from multiple hatcheries have been tied to the outbreaks, and many of the people stricken reported getting chicks and ducklings from sources including feed supply stores, websites, hatcheries and relatives, said the agency. It added that some of the infections have proven difficult to treat with common antibiotics, requiring another type to be used.

[Birds can carry salmonella bacteria](#) even though they

may appear healthy and clean, and people can be infected by touching live poultry or objects in their environment, the health agency cautioned. "Even handling baby birds displayed at stores can cause a salmonella infection," [the CDC said](#).

Full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/cdc-warns-backyard-flocks-sicken-people-in-44-states/>

Schools Eye Facial Recognition Technology to Boost Security

(AP) — The surveillance system that has kept watch on students entering Lockport (NY) schools for over a decade is getting a novel upgrade. Facial recognition technology soon will check each face against a database of expelled students, sex offenders and other possible troublemakers.

It could be the start of a trend as more schools fearful of shootings consider adopting the technology, which has been gaining ground on city streets and in some businesses and government agencies. Just last week, Seattle-based digital software company *RealNetworks* began offering a free version of its facial recognition system to schools nationwide.

Already, the Lockport City School District's plan has opened a debate in this western New York community *and far beyond* about the system's potential effectiveness, student privacy and civil rights.

Read more: <http://www.lex18.com/story/38704194/schools-eye-facial-recognition-technology-to-boost-security>

New 3-D scanners could revolutionize bag check process

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/new-3-d-scanners-could-ease-hassle-of-air-travelers/>

U.S. "most dangerous" place to give birth in developed world

(CBS & USA Today) A [USA Today investigation](#) finds the United States is the "most dangerous place to give birth in the developed world." Every year in the U.S., more than 50,000 mothers are severely injured during or after childbirth and 700 die. USA Today's investigation, "Deadly Deliveries," claims women are dying and suffering life-altering injuries during childbirth because hospitals are not following long-known safety measures. Maternal death in the United States has been steadily rising. The U.S. now has the highest rate in the developed world.

"Experts say that about 50 percent of the deaths of women from childbirth-related causes could be prevented if they were given better medical care and that's a really surprising thing given that we're one of the wealthiest countries in the world and we spend so much on medical care."

Full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/us-most-dangerous-place-to-give-birth-in-developed-world-usa-today-investigation-finds/>

Rising Temperatures Linked to Increased Suicide Rates

(Fortune) A [new study](#) published Monday in the journal *Nature Climate Change* links rising temperatures to increased rates of suicide. The research is among the first to look into the effects climate change could have on a person's mental health.

Full story: <http://fortune.com/2018/07/23/study-climate-change-suicide-increase/>

Study finds flushing water lines protects inconsistently and may increase lead exposure

(Phys.org) Research conducted by LSU Health New Orleans School of Public Health finds that the current recommendations for running water to flush out lead are not consistently effective and may not be the best way to protect children from lead in drinking water. The findings are published in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*.

"While flushing taps according to prevailing guidelines (for 30 seconds to 2 minutes) may reduce [water](#) lead levels for some homes, over half the tested homes had peak water lead levels after that time, so these recommendations may inadvertently increase exposures."

Read more at: <https://phys.org/news/2018-07-flushing-lines-inconsistently-exposure.html#Cp>

John Hopkins: Health Security Headlines, Extracts from [July 25, 2018](#) & [July 26, 2018](#)

[Tickborne Diseases Are Likely to Increase, Say NIH Officials](#) (*National Institutes of Health*) The incidence of tickborne infections in the US has risen significantly within the past decade. It is imperative, therefore, that public health officials and scientists build a robust understanding of pathogenesis, design improved diagnostics, and develop preventive vaccines, according to a new commentary in the *New England Journal of Medicine* from leading scientists at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, part of the National Institutes of Health. [Go to article](#)

[15 Detained in China Rabies Vaccine Scandal](#) (*AP News*) Chinese state media say a total of 15 people have been detained in a growing scandal over the faking of records by a rabies vaccine maker. Those detained include the CEO of Changchun Changsheng Life Sciences Ltd., which has been accused of fabricating production and inspection records following a surprise visit to company offices by inspectors last week. The other 14 were also executives at the company, state broadcaster CCTV said on Wednesday. [Go to article](#)

[High Levels of Sewage Contamination Released from Urban Areas After Storm Events: A Quantitative Survey with Sewage Specific Bacterial Indicators](#) (*PLOS Medicine*) Past studies have demonstrated an association between waterborne disease and heavy precipitation, and climate change is predicted to increase the frequency of these types of intense storm events in some parts of the US. In this study, we examined the linkage between rainfall and sewage contamination of urban waterways and quantified the amount of sewage released from a major urban area under different hydrologic conditions to identify conditions that increase human risk of exposure to sewage. [Go to article](#)

[Anti-Vax Doctors Are Granting Bogus Vaccine Exemptions. How to Make Them Think Twice.](#) (*The Sacramento Bee*) Few pieces of legislation have made more of a difference to more Californians more quickly than the bill two years ago to tighten school vaccination laws. Pushed by Sens. Richard Pan and Ben Allen and signed by Gov. Jerry Brown in the face of fierce anti-vax blowback, Senate Bill 277 ended the so-called "personal belief" exemption that let misinformed parents send their children to school without vaccinations against lethal diseases such as whooping cough, polio, rubella and measles. [Go to article](#)

[Facebook Won't Stop Dangerous Anti-Vaccine Hoaxes from Spreading](#) (*Daily Beast*) Facebook puts anti-vaccine groups at the top of many vaccine-related searches on the platform, another failure of the world's largest social media network to curb the spread of misinformation on its platform. As Facebook grapples with how to handle hoaxes on its platform, the site still remains a hub for conspiracy theories about how vaccines cause autism or other diseases. [Go to article](#)

[Physicians Contend with Aftermath of Mass-Casualty Events](#) (*AMA Wire*) When mass casualty incidents (MCI) occur, attention rightly is paid to those injured or killed. Yet physicians and other health professionals providing care during MCIs also often experience trauma in the events' aftermath. [Go to article](#)

[US is Unprepared for the Health Challenges of Climate Change, Experts Warn](#) (*Scientific American*) The US isn't ready for the public health problems climate change will bring, experts warned Congress last week. From the spread of insect-borne disease to the risks to public health centers and outpatient facilities from environmental disasters, public health professionals on Capitol Hill told congressional staffers there is much work to be done to prepare for potential health risks to the American public at the federal, state and local levels. [Go to article](#)

[An Old Scam With a New Twist](#)

Here's a clever new twist on an old email scam that could serve to make the con far more believable. The message purports to have been sent from a hacker who's compromised your computer and used your webcam to record a video of you while you were watching porn. The missive threatens to release the video to all your contacts unless you pay a Bitcoin ransom. [The new twist?](#) The email now references a real password previously tied to the recipient's email address.

These sorts of online extortion schemes — which try to guilt people into paying off hackers claiming to have compromising information — are nothing new. But a new wave of messages that began popping up in mid-July has stepped up the ploy by showing passwords in the subject headers as attention-grabbing "proof" that someone has deeply burrowed into your computer and has your personal information.

According to the [Krebs on Security blog](#), several recipients of this particular blackmail campaign observed that the password included in the message was old, some by about a decade, and not currently in use. For those who haven't changed their passwords in years, the ruse could appear more realistic, and the hustle itself may become fine-tuned as the perpetrators weave in fresher bits of stolen user data.

NY Times story: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/23/technology/personaltech/phishing-password-email.html>

Krebs blog: <https://krebsonsecurity.com/2018/07/sextortion-scam-uses-recipients-hacked-passwords/>

Video: 2018 NACCHO Preparedness Summit Final Plenary Session "A Troubling Gap: Why Cyber Security Matters to Public Health Emergency Response"

The final plenary session ["A Troubling Gap: Why Cyber Security Matters to Public Health Emergency Preparedness"](#) wrapped up the 2018 Preparedness Summit at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta, Ga. with a panel discussion on why cyberattacks is a public health concern. In this interactive session, moderator Stephen Curren, Director, Office of Security, Intel and Information Sharing, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, posed a series of questions to the audience to discuss this specific 21st century threat. To view the session, [check out a video](#) on NACCHO's YouTube channel. ([Link](#))

The KHREF Emergency Preparedness Update is assembled several times a week. When events make it necessary, the Update may be sent out several times a day to keep our hospital and the healthcare community advised on preparedness news and information. Most of this information is compiled from open sources, and where possible reference links will be provided. There is an archive of [Emergency Preparedness Updates available here](#). If you would like to add or delete, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact rbartlett@kyha.com (include your current email address). The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.